

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

WILEY H. ALLEN EDITOR

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 1916.

FURTHER DELAYS UNWELCOME.

The public is in no mood for delays of litigation in paying of Kalakaua avenue. Members of the board of supervisors after careful consideration of the city will be the gainer by cooperation with the Rapid Transit Company in the laying temporary tracks on the beach boulevard now. They are willing that the city should stand half of expense. The city's share of the cost will be \$100,000, and the city will benefit by getting the tracks laid to the center now instead of a year from the earliest date at which the permanent rails be secured. Of course no taxpayer relishes exorbitant cost on the Kalakaua avenue improvement, but conditions there absolutely demand early relief. The Star-Bulletin believes the great majority of people will trust to the judgment of the supervisors who have been conducting the negotiations. It is unfortunate that the deputy city attorney sees a legal bar in the way of the city appropriating money. But lawyers differ on interpretation of legal provisions—as has been shown in the not distant past—and, all things considered, the Star-Bulletin believes public opinion will uphold supervisors in proceeding with what appears to be the common sense and progressive way of settling the difficulty.

KING BASEBALL.

While that five-game battle continued between Brooklyn and Brooklyn for the world's baseball championship, it attracted more interest than wars, local politics or presidential elections. Many businessmen in Honolulu gave up most of their mornings to watching the Star-Bulletin's re-broadcast of the game. A half-score of telephones were kept ceaselessly ringing by the anxious "fans" who wanted to get the news by innings. Judge on the circuit bench halted a trial so that the latest "flash" from Brooklyn could be read in the court room. Every army post on Oahu and at Pearl Harbor at station the returns were bulletined and the soldiers of the service men read them with the keenest interest. The island wireless sent the news all over the territory and in almost every remote hamlet the day's news was known before nightfall. Of this is a tremendous tribute to the hold of this great, clean sport has upon healthy, red-blooded Americans. Because of this hold on their rest and affections, and because of the desire to see the public as near perfectly as possible, the Star-Bulletin gave the returns play by play throughout the series. Each play was sent by telegraph wirelessly while the game was in progress, some never before attempted in Hawaii. The results were quite successful. They were achieved through good organization and cooperation with the Associated Press and the Federal Wireless Company. The Star-Bulletin hereby expresses its appreciation for the countless telephone calls, letters and personal expressions of congratulation which this paper is receiving because of the world's series service.

GETTING ACQUAINTED WITH UNCLE SAM.

Two addresses under the auspices of the Y. M. C. A. citizenship education committee should be of unusual interest in Honolulu. They are talks on history and principles of the two great national parties, Republican and Democratic. The first tonight at the Honolulu library auditorium. Mr. D. L. Withington, the speaker tonight, will discuss the Republican party. The talk begins at 7 o'clock. A very young man in Honolulu ought to be, and many of them are, interested in party politics. The speaker is particularly well qualified to make the subject entertaining, fresh, up-to-date and authoritative. Off-hand not one out of five men can tell you the two great parties differ in fundamental principle, and it is a fact that in many of their policies they now coincide. But as almost every action of national government rests on the party in power, it is of vital importance that the citizen should have some definite knowledge of what these parties are, how they were created, what they have done and what they are trying to do. Outside the sphere of valuable information, the story of government and party politics in the United States is as absorbing as any romance or adventure. These talks young citizens of Honolulu have an opportunity they should not overlook of getting acquainted with Uncle Sam.

ADEQUATE PROTECTION LACKING.

Main facts of frequent robberies, hold-ups, burglaries, vandalism and often considerably worse are speaking pretty loudly these days of a lack of adequate police protection. The police department was never so large in number, so costly to maintain, and so lacking in well-trained men and efficient organization as now. At least since county government has been established. The sheriff is a law unto himself, and when his subordinates get before the civil service commission charged with something particularly raw, the sheriff makes their case his own and goes before

the commission apparently bent on influencing it to clear the men. He virtually conducts the hearings. Honolulu has no municipal department so defiant of public opinion and so little amenable to public authority as the police department. Nothing but the voice of the people at the polls will be listened to at the police station. And so long as the police department is defiant of public opinion, it is not likely to change its inefficient ways. Honolulu can expect misdemeanor, crime and vandalism to continue on the increase unless the voters show their dissatisfaction in something more tangible than grumbling.

SNAPSHOTS AT NATIONAL POLITICS.

Democratic ability to get comfort out of adversity has never been wonderful. Present interpretations of the Maine election by the old war horses is confirming that reputation. —Cincinnati Times Star.

The voting in Maine is by no means necessarily representative of the whole country. It is, however, distinctly indicative of the trend of the current. That trend may conceivably change, but Republicans have every reason to be encouraged by both the character and extent of the Maine victory. —Chicago Tribune.

The opinion is that our experience with the eight-hour law has given the movement for government ownership of railways a decided setback. If the private investor holds the pursestrings—granting just regulation by the government—there is not likely to be so much trouble. —Indianapolis News.

"President Wilson is one presidential candidate who finds it necessary to discuss some things even more serious than politics," says the Washington Star. Right, from start to finish! But the trouble is that he does nothing but discuss. —Cincinnati Commercial Tribune.

"Don't try to spread your appropriations over too much road," warned F. R. Ritchie, San Francisco contractor, in a timely talk given at the Rotary Club luncheon yesterday. The advice is wise. Even Honolulu's star example of road-expense, that \$16,000-a-mile stretch of belt highway at Heaia, proved to be "spreading too much." The roadway was not strong enough to withstand the heavy traffic over it, though it is fair to say that when the specifications were drawn the engineers and loan fund commissioners did not foresee the tremendous burden the paving would have to bear. Better to build less length of road and more depth than the opposite. Too light paving will not stand the traffic; it will be gone before the local improvement bonds have been retired. This is not advice for the benefit of engineers, for all of them know it, but for the benefit of property-owners who are inclined to question the wisdom of such costly jobs as Maunaloa, Kalakaua avenue and Beach Walk.

Every war artist has exercised his fancy freely in drawing the new British "tanks" or armored cars which are proving the feature of the war now. Likewise every war-correspondent and "military expert" who hasn't seen the cars is exercising his fancy freely in describing them. But the censors are so rigid and so busy that neither an authentic technical description, nor an authentic photograph has yet reached the United States—or had not done so up to a few days ago. Meanwhile the statement in this paper several weeks ago—that the armored cars are built with a Holt tractor foundation made in the United States—holds good. The big "caterpillar" tractor is a U. S. invention and once again American ideas are to the fore.

Capt. Franz von Papen, the former military attaché at Washington, is now one of the fighters on the Somme front. He is the chief general staff officer of a division holding a crucial sector. Capt. von Papen, it will be remembered, was recalled by his government after the United States had found his activities improper and undesirable. He is evidently much more of a success as a fighting man than as a diplomat-plotter.

Illustrating how "vice is restricted to jail," it is noted that the police have arrested four proprietors of lodging-houses where it is alleged disorderly women have been systematically plying their sordid trade.

"President Wants No Loose Talking." Then he ought to put the muffer on Brother Bryan, Daniels, a few dozen senators and several score congressmen.

Some girls are so prim they wouldn't be rescued from a wreck in a breeches buoy. —Boston Transcript.

King Constantine's government appears to have marched off and left him.

Boston is undoubtedly making good as the Hub of the Universe.

Rumania grabbed hold with gusto and is now afraid to let go.

Perhaps the U. S. is looking for the Bremen now.

Ukulele Given Recognition In U. S. Officialdom

BY C. S. ALBERT

(Special Star-Bulletin Correspondence.) WASHINGTON, D. C., Oct. 12.—The ukulele, the Hawaiian musical instrument, is rapidly becoming a fad in this country. It is no longer any secret that Broadway, New York, likes the ukulele music and is willing to pay for it.

The Department of Commerce is in receipt of a report from A. P. Taylor, its representative in the Hawaiian Islands, telling of the wonderful success of the little Hawaiian guitar.

Mr. Taylor has just filed with the department a lot of statistics which give a fairly adequate idea of how the ukulele business is picking up in the South Seas. According to the agent, the manufacturers of the Hawaiian instrument are turning out 1600 a month, which is some increase over the 500 or 600 that were being made a year ago.

In the city of Honolulu there are at present no less than eight ukulele factories, while scattered through the islands are a number of smaller plants. The native manufacturers were not prepared to meet the demand for the guitars that sprang up within the last 12 months, after the instrument gained such popularity in the United States.

Previously the only ukuleles made were turned out by small shops employing two or three skilled makers. The output of these places, however, was almost entirely for the island trade and when the foreign demand struck Honolulu the demand went far ahead of the supply.

Within the past few months practically every ukulele manufacturer in Honolulu has been speeding up his output to meet the demand. The small workshops have been turned into factories; the handful of workers formerly employed has been swelled as rapidly as workers could be trained and plants enlarged. During the first week of the present month a ukulele manufacturing company was organized in Honolulu which plans to turn out 1600 to 2000 instruments a month as long as the present demand continues.

This company will not only manufacture a heavy output of the instruments, but plans to market the production of other factories in the islands. The workers will all be Hawaiians or Portuguese.

The man who originated the ukulele—a Portuguese whose name is not given—is now president of a manufacturing concern which is turning out 700 instruments a month. He is still an active worker in his own factory, the report says. Another Honolulu firm is producing about 400 instruments every month.

The native instrument superior. Mr. Taylor reports that the native instrument is far superior to any instrument that can be built in America or elsewhere. The Hawaiian ukulele is made of koa wood, seasoned and prepared according to native methods and selling at from \$3.75 to \$20. The higher-priced instruments are heavily beaded.

One of the most important considerations in ukulele construction, says the report, is "building in" the tone, and the native workers claim that this can only be accomplished with the use of koa wood.

Ukulele playing became a fad soon after the production on Broadway of the play "Robinson Crusoe," in which Al Jolson introduced the song "Yaka Hula Hula Dula," and has since spread all over the country.

VITAL STATISTICS

BORN—In the Kapiolani Maternity Home, Honolulu, Oct. 11, 1916, to Capt. and Mrs. Samuel H. Ware of 293 Saratoga road, Waikiki, a son, Lawrence Edward.

AHOE—In the Queen's Hospital, Honolulu, October 11, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Ahoe of Heaia, Oahu, a daughter.

MARTINS—In Honolulu, Oct. 10, 1916, to Mr. and Mrs. John Martins of 6028 Beretania street, a son, John.

MARRIED—KEPANO-HART—In Vancouver, B. C., Canada, Sept. 28, 1916, Kepano Keko, Hawaiian musician of Portland, Oregon, and Mrs. Cornelius Hart, British, of Vancouver.

DIED—RODRIGUES—In Honolulu, Oct. 11, 1916, Alice Marguerite, daughter of

Honey Bees In Capitol Attic Get Water Cure

Bees—real old live honey bees with stings in 'em—have infested the sacred domains of the palace attic this week, and despite the efforts of yard policemen to get rid of the pests a few are said to be droning their ditties still.

The bees lit in a swarm on Tuesday in the corner of the attic next to the armory which is just over the office of Deputy Attorney Arthur G. Smith, though Smith denies that he has ever seen anything of them. "I haven't any bees in my bonnet or in my belly either, so far as I know," he says.

Stanley, bears out his deputy. He admits that he has not climbed into the attic to see for himself since he heard the bees' rumor, but says the only humming he has heard has been when Smith sings to himself in the other room.

Whether or not the legal lights know of the presence of the bees, it is undoubtedly true that they are or have been over that office. Some people think they were attracted to the corner by flowers which Smith sometimes keeps on his office table. Others think that they just happened to light there as they came along in a swarm.

Water from garden hose was used to drive them out, yardmen carrying huge coils of rubber up into the darkness of the attic. Huge gobs of the bees dropped down by the window of the internal revenue office where Collector "Jim" Halley holds forth and dined or died there in the sun.

LITTLE INTERVIEWS

—JOSEPH P. DIAS: I don't know whether I would rather be a reporter or an interpreter. Both have hard lives.

—JUDGE A. D. LARNACH: I hear that the world's series is over, but to tell you the truth I don't get very excited about national baseball.

W. H. HUTTON, detective secretary: If you want to know how it feels to stand for an hour cooped up in a clothes locker, just try it and find out.

EDWARD TOWNSEND, Japanese interpreter: I believe the Hawaiian stevedores are showing the proper appreciation of the Japanese who helped them.

MARCUS SANDERS: I don't see how the policemen eating at the jail can expect me to bring stewed chicken to their table if they don't bring me the chicken.

CAPT. D. K. LARRISON: The shooting record established by the 1st Company, C. A. C., N. G. H., at Fort De Russy last night with sub-caliber ammunition was excellent.

JOE NOBRIGA (over the telephone from Waimanalo, where he is spending his vacation with his family): Send out the patrol wagon. I caught two monstrous akus.

LIEUT. LOUIS PEPIN, U. S. A.: I am proud of the good work being done by the coast artillery militiamen. It is a pleasure to work with intelligent men who seem to learn quickly and who appreciate one's efforts to teach.

FIRST ICELAND SHIP SINCE YEAR 1000 REACHES AMERICA

NEW YORK, N. Y.—The Gullfoss, said to be one of the first Icelandic ships to visit the shores of the Western hemisphere since the days of Leif the Lucky, tied up in the harbor here the other day with a cargo of herring. Aboard the Gullfoss, a little steamer of 88 tons, is a crew of Icelandic sailors, offered by Icelandic navigators, and speaking virtually the same language that Leif, son of Eric the Red, spoke when he landed at Cape Cod about the year 1000.

Mr. and Mrs. Manuel Rodrigues of Hualale lane, Kakaako, a native of this city, 7 months and 17 days old. Buried yesterday in the Catholic cemetery, King street.

AHOE—In the Queen's Hospital, Oct. 11, 1916, the infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. A. Ahoe of Heaia, Oahu, a native of this city. Body cremated yesterday.

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